



PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

Reviewed: January 2018

Review Frequency: Annual

1. Background

Introduced in April 2011, the Pupil Premium is a Government initiative that provides additional funding aimed at pupils from deprived backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from deprived backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Pupil Premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential by accelerating their progress.

The Government has used pupils entitled to Free School Meals and those who are Looked After (LAC) as an indicator for deprivation. They have given a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School Meals and who are looked after by the local authority. A premium has also been introduced for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces. This service premium is designed to address the emotional and social well-being of these pupils.

All members of Aspire Academies Trust – staff, trustees and the academy local advisory body (LAB) – accept responsibility for those pupils recognised as ‘disadvantaged’ and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs.

Every child who is considered to be ‘disadvantaged’ is valued, respected and entitled to develop to their full potential, irrespective of disadvantage.

2. Pupil Premium Objectives

- Aspire Academies Trust will ensure that the Pupil Premium funding reaches the groups of pupils for whom it was intended and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.
- The Pupil Premium will be used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and raise the achievement for these pupils.
- The funding will be used to narrow and close the gap between the achievement of these pupils and their peers.
- Aspire Academies Trust will use the additional funding to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for Pupil Premium and others.

3. Ensuring Effective use of the Pupil Premium

- The Pupil Premium will be clearly identifiable within the academy’s budget.
- The academy Principal (or delegated Senior Leader) in consultation with the LAB and staff, will decide how the Pupil Premium is spent for the benefit of those pupils who are entitled. Funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority groups or individuals.
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, Aspire Academies Trust recognises that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged or underachieving. We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged or underachieving are registered or qualify for free school meals. We therefore reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding

to support any groups of pupils the individual academy has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.

- Each academy will assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils.
- Each academy will be accountable for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those pupils covered by the Pupil Premium.
- The academy Principal (or delegated Senior Leader) will report to the LAB and parents on how effective the intervention has been in achieving its aims, including publishing online information about how the Pupil Premium funding has been used.
- The academy LAB will track the impact of the strategies put into place through the funding to ensure the academy can show the value that has been added to the education of the entitled pupils.
- The academy LAB will monitor, evaluate and review the success of the impact of the Pupil Premium funding and report to the Aspire Academies Trust.

4. Provision

All academies within Aspire Academies Trust will regularly seek to further develop strategies and interventions which can improve the progress and attainment of these pupils. Examples of the range of provision which may be put in place include:

- Providing small group or 1:1 support with an experienced member of staff to focus on overcoming barriers to learning
- Facilitating pupils' access to education and the curriculum through additional or specialist resources
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through learning mentors, trained Teaching Assistants or external agencies

5. Reporting Outcomes

It will be the responsibility of the academy Principal (or designated Senior Leader) to produce a termly report for the LAB that will include:

- The progress made towards closing the gap for disadvantage pupils
- An outline of the provision made during the term since the last report
- An evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support
- The academy LAB will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents outlining how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for socially disadvantaged pupils. This will be posted on the academy website.